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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner:
George Frey et al.	)	Ann M. Schillinger
	)	
Serial No.: 10/720,656	)	Group Art Unit:
	)	3738
Filed: November 24, 2003	)	
	)	Atty Docket No. MSDI-247/PC845.00
	)	
DISTRACTION AND RETRACTION	)	May 29, 2007
SYSTEM FOR SPINAL SURGERY	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH RCE**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

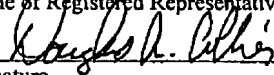
Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 29, 2007, and Advisory Action mailed April 12, 2007 in the above application, please consider the following. The fees for a one month extension of time and RCE are enclosed herewith. No additional fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of the enclosed. However, please provide any additional extensions of time that may be necessary and charge any additional fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Preliminary Amendment with RCE  
USSN 10/720,656  
Atty Docket No. MSDI-247/PC845.00  
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